

RAJ KUMAR MANALA

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EDUCATION

Concordia University Chicago

Master of Science, Computer and Information Systems (GPA: 3.7/4.0)

Aug 2023 - May 2025

SKILLS

Languages & Framework: SQL, MySQL, T SQL, PL/SQL, PySpark, Spark SQL, Hadoop Python.

Cloud Technologies: Azure, AWS, Databricks, Terraform, MongoDB Atlas, Snowflake, Azure Stack: Synapse Analytics, Purview, Data Factory, Key Vault, Fabric, Networking, ARM templates, Cosmos DB.

Databases – OLAP & OLTP: PostgreSQL, MySQL, SQLite3, MongoDB, Oracle SQL Developer, MS SQL Server.

BI Tools/Platforms: Power Bi, Tableau, MS Excel, Delta Lake, SSIS, Postman & REST API, Visual Studio, Git, CI/CD, Air byte, Kafka, Airflow, Riverty, Chat GPT.

Certifications: Azure Data Engineer Associate, Power BI Data Analyst, Databricks Data Engineer, Azure Data Fundamentals, Azure AI Fundamentals, Azure Fundamentals, Databricks Generative AI.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Mindtree & LTI Mindtree – Microsoft Vendor

Hyderabad, India

Big Data Engineer

Apr 2020 - Aug 2023

- Streamlined 150+ data processing workflows by leveraging PySpark within Azure Databricks, and Azure Data Factory thereby optimizing data processing efficiency by 70%.
- Analyzed ETL process failures, data anomalies, and data warehousing issues identified by 100+ developers and 700+ end-users.
- Identified means to reduce and control expenses by conducting cost and contract performance analysis and improving resource allocation by 40%.
- Supported 50+ product managers and software engineers in analyzing and deploying augmented cloud infrastructure, while adhering to the project scope and budget.
- Implemented Infrastructure as Code (IaC) methodologies leveraging tools such as Azure Resource Manager and Terraform, enabling automated deployments and significantly reducing time and effort by 90%.
- Established a hierarchical staging area structure for raw data while implementing SCD Type 1 & Type 2 to ensure accurate historical data in the semantic layer for reporting and historical data preservation.
- Designed and implemented scalable and high-performance data models using Azure Cosmos DB, resulting in a 80% improvement in query response times and a 20% reduction in storage costs compared to previous database solutions.
- Conducted security assessments and made for disaster recovery, network appliances, clusters and directory services security.

Concordia University Chicago

River Forest, Illinois

CougarNet Helpdesk Specialist

Aug 2023 - Jul 2024

- Provided comprehensive IT support at CougarNet Help Desk, assisting students, faculty, and staff with hardware/software troubleshooting, Administrative Information Systems (AIS), Ellucian Banner, and Blackboard Learn for seamless academic and administrative operations.
- Managed setup and maintenance of audiovisual equipment for classes and events while offering guidance for Concordia Connect, the university's online portal.
- Ensured a reliable IT environment by resolving technical issues and enhancing user experience through proactive support and effective problem-solving.

Concordia University Chicago

River Forest, Illinois

Technical Support Specialist

Jul 2024 - Present

- Led imaging, configuration, and deployment of Dell desktops, laptops, and iMacs, ensuring seamless integration with organizational policies and deploying Windows 11 and the latest macOS for optimal performance.
- Spearheaded system upgrades by replacing outdated hardware, optimizing device configurations, and implementing security protocols to protect sensitive data.
- Streamlined IT operations through data-driven troubleshooting and analysis, enhancing system performance and reliability.
- Collaborated on cross-functional projects to implement innovative technology solutions, improving resource efficiency and user experience.

ACADAMIC PROJECTS

DITA Project – MS SQL | Data Lake Gen2 | Data Factory | Databricks | Synapse | PowerBI

- Designed and executed a complete data engineering workflow by ingesting on-premises MS SQL Server data into Azure Data Lake, transforming it across bronze, silver, and gold layers in Azure Databricks, storing it in Azure Synapse Analytics, and creating visualizations and reports in Power BI.

Sales Data Analytics Project – Power BI | Data Analysis | Data Modeling | Data Transformation | SQL | DAX

- Sales data was cleansed in SQL Server using T-SQL and Power Query, organized into a star schema for efficient analysis, and visualized through interactive Power BI dashboards with DAX measures to enable real-time insights into key performance metrics and trends.

Supply Chain Analytics Project – Azure Databricks | Python | PySpark | SparkSQL | AI/ML

- Developed a Supply Chain Dashboard for an online fashion retail store by leveraging Databricks to ingest and transform JSON data into Delta tables, designing KPIs to analyze sales, demand, and stock levels, and integrating real-time inventory data to create dynamic dashboards for optimized decision-making.

LEADERSHIP & ACHIVEMENTS

- Top Voice in LinkedIn for Data Engineering and Analytics, Cloud Computing.